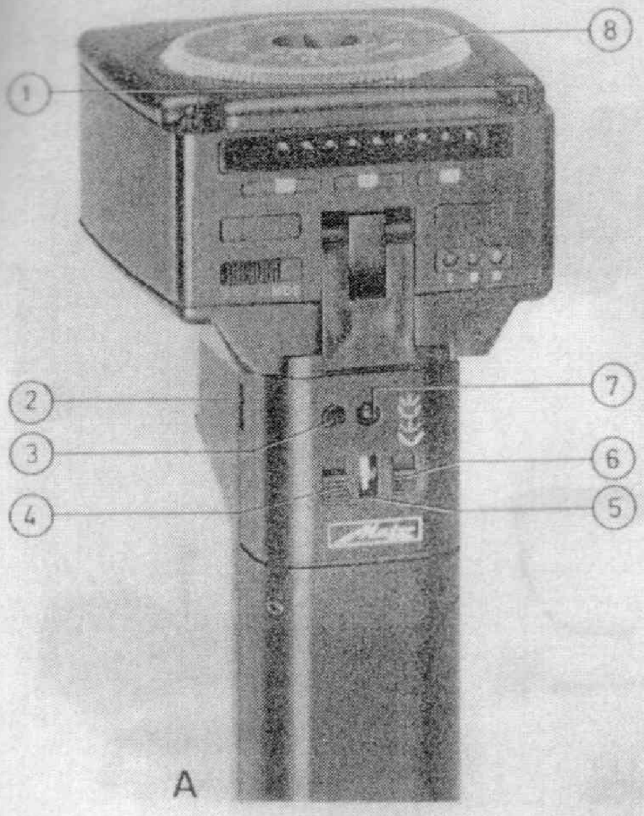
Metz

MECABLITZ

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS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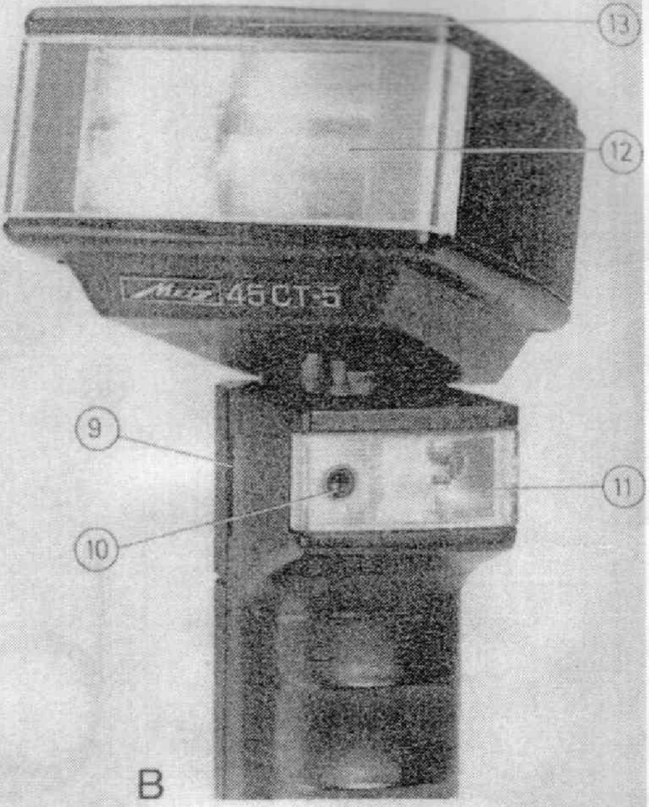
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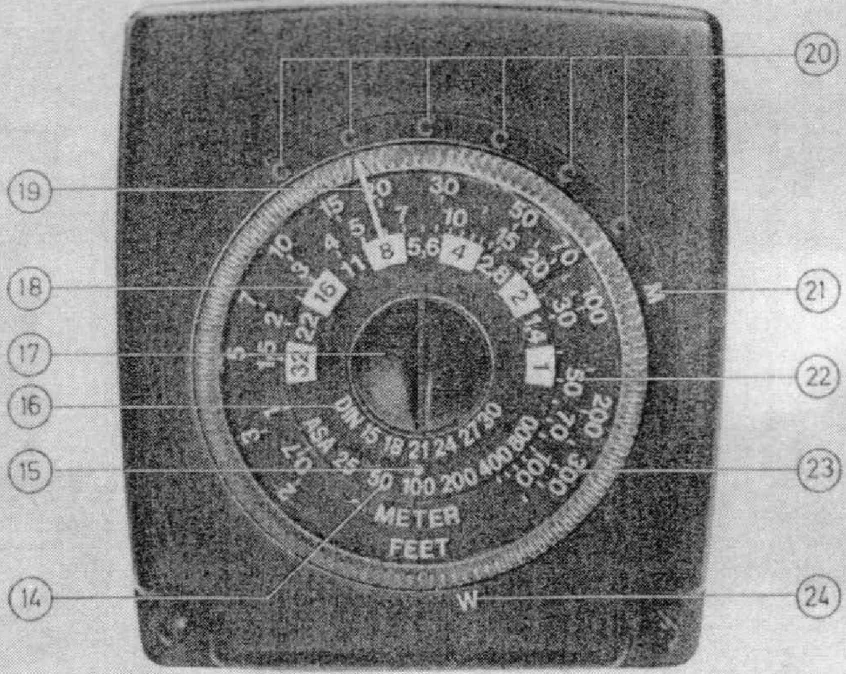
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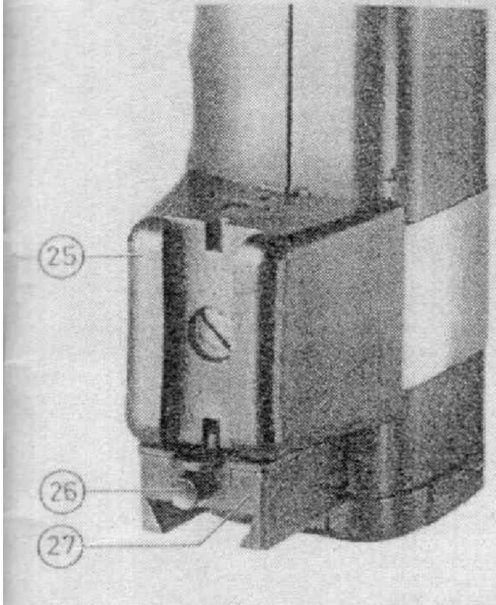

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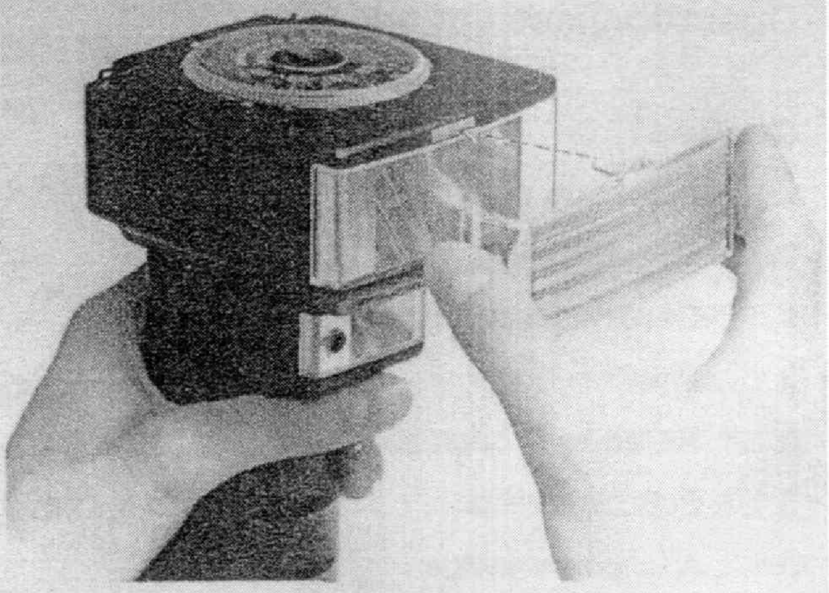

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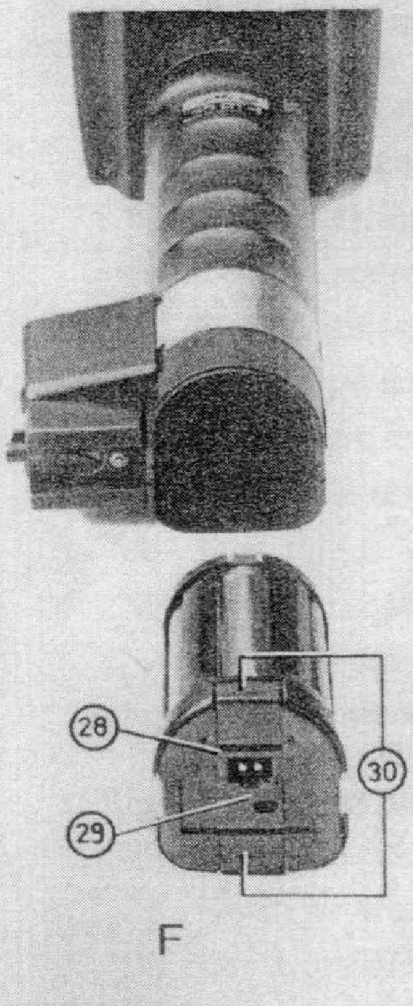

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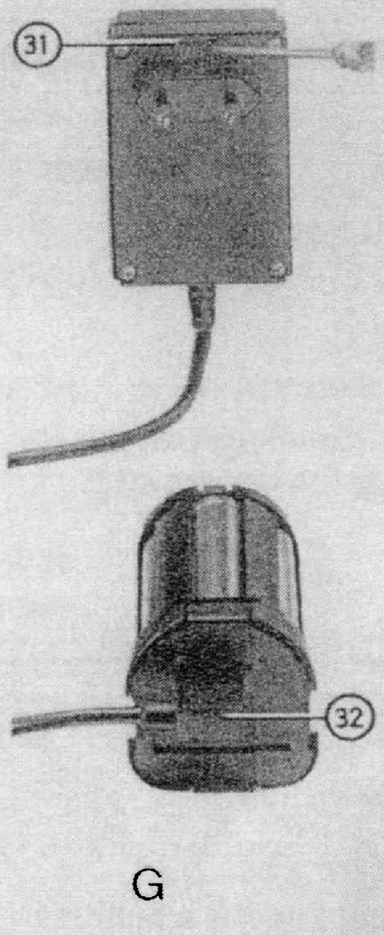

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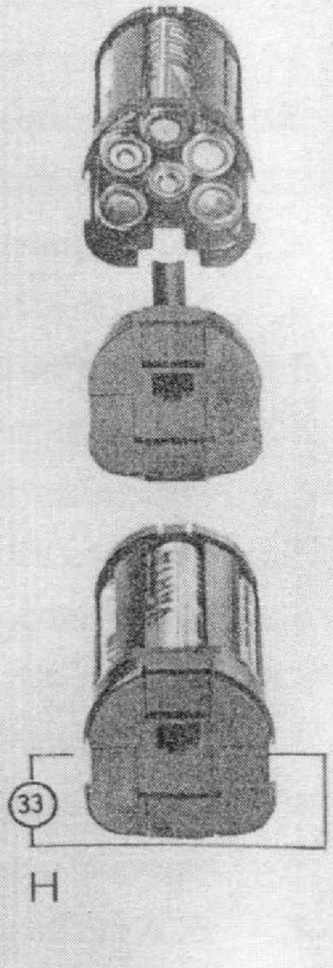

H

Operation Instructions

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1. Summary of Specifications

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(4) On/Off switch
(5) Flash ready light
(6) Switch for fill-in reflector
(7) Auto check
(8) Control centre aperture calculator disc

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(43) DIN or ASA indicator
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Fig. "0" Operating ranges

Fig. "P' Fitting of the reduction filter 45-44

Technical Data

Guide numbers for Film speed 21 DIN /100 ASA	
meter system:	45
feet system:	148
BCPS:	4400
Illumination:	approx. 65° horizontal, 45° vertical
Illumination with wide angle attachment:	approx. 65° horizontal, 60° vertical
Illumination of fill-in reflector:	approx. 65° horizontal, 45° vertical
Light distribution with switched-on fill-in reflector:	Quadrolight reflector 85% Fill-in reflector 15%
Adjustable Quadrolight reflector:	horizontal 360° vertical 90° (locks in 6 settings)
Colour temperature:	approx. 5600 K
Automatic with 6 working apertures:	21 DIN film: 2 - 2.8 - 4 - 5.6 - 8 - 11 18 DIN film: 1.4 - 2 - 2.8 - 4 - 5.6 - 8
Coverage angle of sensor approx.:	25°
Flash duration:	approx. 1/300† to 1/25000 sec.
Flash duration during winder operation:	approx. 1/12000 sec.
Recycling time, approx.:	NiCad pack : 7† - 0.3 sec. Alkali manganese battery : 13† - 0.3 sec. Power pack N 20 : 4† - 0.3 sec. Power pack N 21 : 16† - 0.3 sec.
Number of flashes, approx.:	NiCad pack : 50† - 2000 Alkaline manganese battery : 120† - 2600
Trigger circuit:	Low-voltage thyristor ignition
Triggering voltage prim.:	Approx. 30 V
Power sources:	NiCad pack 45-40 6 alkaline manganese mignon cells IEC LR 6 Mains with power pack N 20 or N 21
Rapid charge of NiCad pack:	approx. 5 hours, in the unit or externally
Dimensions:	approx. H247 x W92 x D102 mm
Weight:	approx. 940 gm c/w NiCad pack
Included accessories:	Bracket 45-36 or 32-36 Sync cord 60-50 Charger 402.12‡ or 700 … 710‡ NiCad pack 45-40‡ Battery holder 45-39 Wide angle attachment 45-42 Fill-in flash reduction filter 45-44
Optional extras:	See section 7 (fig. (a) … (t))

† automatic disconnected

‡ with NiCad-version only

Guide Number Table

Film speed		Guide numbers	
DIN	ASA	m	ft
9	6	11	37
10	8	13	42
11	10	14	47
12	12	16	53
13	16	18	59
14	20	20	66
15	25	23	74
16	32	25	83
17	40	28	93
18	50	32	105
19	64	36	118
20	80	40	132
21	100	45	148
22	125	50	166
23	164	57	186
24	200	64	209
25	250	71	235
26	320	80	263
27	400	90	295
28	500	101	331
29	650	113	372
30	800	127	417
31	1000	142	468
32	1250	160	525
33	1600	179	589
34	2000	201	661
35	2500	226	742
36	3200	253	832

2. Mecablitz features

Your Mecablitz 45 CT 5 is a powerful flash unit of sophisticated technology that will help you solve complicated flash problems.

Its superior features include:

- Automatic with six working apertures for easy setting and better depth of field.
- Power saving thyristor light control. Thyristor control allows supershort flash sequences for close-ups and a higher number of flashes per charge or battery set.
- Long-time indicating auto check
- Manual mode with full light intensity
- Operation with winder cameras
- Universal tilting quadrolight reflector
- Switchable fill-in reflector for frontal fill-in of bounce-flash shots (Duo light system)
- Power supply either by NiCad packs or dry batteries
- AC power operation with N 20 or N 21 power packs
- Display of all data by MDS (microcomputer data system)
- Wide-angle attachment with automatic data display switchover
- Wide range of accessories

The Mecablitz 45CT5 allows flashing in dedicated mode with system cameras: CANON, CONTAX, HASELBLAD, LEICA, MINOLTA, NIKON, OLYMPUS, ROLLEI, PENTAX

Further connection systems (SCA system cables and special adaptors) are in preparation.

Please read these Operating Instructions with great care so that you can make the best of the applications that this unit and its system offers.

3. General instructions and explanations

3.1. Power supply

The Mecablitz 45 CT 5 can be selectively operated on NiCad packs, dry batteries or with the N 21 or N 20 power packs. A battery holder is supplied as a standard item for operation with dry batteries.

To remove the NiCad pack or the battery holder press in both the grooved catches (30) and slide the NiCad pack or the battery holder out of the torch. Likewise press in the catches and apply light pressure to the base of the pack or battery holder when inserting it to enable the catches to lock into place (Fig. “F”).

3.1.1. NiCad pack operation

The NiCad pack must be charged for approx. 5 hours prior to initial use. The pack can be charged in the unit or externally.

If the pack is to be charged in the unit then the flash unit must not be switched on during the charging procedure.

The socket (28) for the charger is located in the base of the NiCad pack. The charging indicator (29) adjacent to this illuminates during charging. To prevent confusion of charged and uncharged NiCd batteries, the batteries have been provided with a memory slider that can be set to "black" and "white”. On a charged NiCd battery, the slider is set to "white", whereas a discharged battery should be marked by "black" right after its removal from the flashgun.

Charging from an AC power supply using the charger 402.12 or 700...710 (Fig. "C") (Only for AC at 50.. 60 Hz)

Make sure that the charger is set to correct line voltage. The voltage selector (31) on the charger is located next to the power sockets. You can reset it using a small screw driver. First insert the charging plug (32) into the socket on the base of the NiCad pack, then connect the rapid charger to AC power supply. If the NiCad pack is completely run down recharging will take about 5 hours. Recharging is faster if the pack is only partly exhausted. In case of doubt, you may charge for 5 hours. Accidental overcharging will not damage the battery pack. However, a 5-hour charging time should not be exceeded in the interest of a long service life.

Charging with a 12 V car battery

The A16 car charger (optional extra) allows charging the NiCad pack from a 12 V car battery.

When the motor is running, the battery voltage will rise so that the charging time varies.

A completely exhausted storage battery takes:

- about 6 hours to recharge when the car motor is stopped; and
- about 4 hours when the motor is running.

Spontaneous discharge of NiCad pack

Even when not in use there is a constant low drain on the NiCad pack. This drain is about 1% per day with a room temperature of 20° C. The number of available flashes is therefore reduced during storage. It is recommended to recharge the NiCad pack for about 5 hours every 3 months when not in use.

Battery drain is increased with rising temperatures. Therefore, remember to take your charger with you when travelling.

3.1.2. Battery operation

The unit will only accept alkaline manganese batteries size IEC LR 6 (penlight cells size AA). Batteries especially suited for flash operation are also Berec Super Power (LR 6), Fuji Novel PHOTO LR 6, Philips Fotoflash, Varta Photo V 1500 PX and similar (please note that the sequence of the above batteries has been made by alphabetical order).

Loading and changing of batteries (Fig. "H")

Remove the battery holder from the torch. Depress the two catches (33) on the base of the battery holder and pull the base off. Load the batteries observing the polarity marks inside the battery holder. Now again depress the catches (33) and reinsert the base. Replace the battery holder into the torch.

Attention!

Battery leakage may damage the battery terminals. Therefore never leave run-down batteries in the battery holder.

Make sure to remove the batteries also when you are not likely to use the flash unit for a longer period of time.

3.1.3. A.C. power usage

Two power packs are available (optional extras) for A.C. power usage. For connection use the socket (2) provided on one side of the torch. The flash unit has to be turned off by means of the switch (4).

To avoid a thermal overload when firing more than 30 flashes in one sequence with full light output (manual operation or automatic operation with maximum working ranges), the following recycling times should be observed:

- during **continuous operation** (e. g. time-lapse shots) there should be a break of at least 30 sec. from one flash to the other.
- during **intermittent operation**, there should be a break of at least 4 min. Following every 10 flashes fired at fastest recycling time.

Flashing from the mains does exclude flashing in the SCA mode and digital display.

Power pack N 20

For connection use the cable 45-55. The recycling time at full capacity is 4 sec. approx.

Power pack N 21

Recycling time at full capacity: 16 sec. approx.

3.2. Automatic mode

With its sensor (10) the automatic measures the light reflected from the subject and quenches the flash as soon as the right quantity of light for exposure has been received. As long as the object stays within the set aperture's operating range, modification of the aperture setting is not necessary when changing the distance

The sensor measures the light intensity only during the time of its own radiation.

When firing flashes, point the sensor at the subject, no matter how the reflector is adjusted.

3.3. Auto check

The auto check (7) signals correct exposure when lighted. This allows to find the best aperture setting by firing a trial flash manually when using bounced light whose reflections may give a lot of guesswork.

3.4. Bounced light

Direct lighting may cause undesirable dramatic shadows which can be avoided by bounced flashing. The reflector is then adjusted so that the light is bounced off the ceiling or a wall or a reflective surface. This produces more gentle modelling.

For colour shots, the reflective surface must be white to prevent undesirable colour shades. For special colour effects, the reflective surface should have the desired colour.

Bounce flash - in automatic mode

The sensor must be aimed at the subject. Fire a trial flash manually and use the auto check to find out if the aperture setting of automatic and camera is correct.

Manual bounce flashing

The selector disc (8) is set to "M" (computer is turned off). A common rule of thumb for aperture settings in small rooms is:

$$\text{Camera aperture to be set} = \frac{\text{guide number}}{2 \times \text{reflector-to-subject distance}}$$

3.5. Duo light system

The fill-in reflector (11) is used for frontal fill-in during bounce flashing (switch 6).

The quadrolight reflector then only emits 85% of the light and the fill-in reflector approx. 15%. For direct lighting only the quadrolight reflector should be used.

3.5.1. Fill-in flash reduction filter 45-44

When using bounce light photography with additional front lighting by means of the fill-in reflector it is sometimes desirable to reduce the degree of frontal illumination.

Reduction filter 45-44 is supplied as an accessory for the flash unit for this case.

The use of this reduction filter reduces the light of the fill-in reflector to approx. 40%

Fitting of the reduction filter

Slip the reduction filter over the fill-in reflector as shown in Fig. "P".

The reduction filter is properly positioned when both side notches are properly snapped into the grooves on both sides of the fill-in reflector.

Please ensure that the tube of the sensor (10) is properly located in the opening of the reduction filter. Should this not be, erroneous exposures can occur when working in automatic mode.

3.6. Illumination and wide-angle attachment

Without wide-angle attachment: 65° horizontal, 45° vertical

suitable lenses for format:	are:
24 x 36 mm	35 mm focal length and longer
6 x 6 cm	75 mm focal length and longer

With wide-angle attachment: 65° horizontal, 60° vertical

suitable lenses for format:	are:
24 x 36 mm	28 mm focal length and longer
6 x 6 cm	50 mm focal length and longer

The wide-angle attachment reduces the guide number of the unit. The **automatic** measures correctly also when the wide-angle attachment is used. However, please note the changed operating ranges. Insertion of the wide-angle attachment (Fig. "E") automatically changes the ranges and the new data are displayed by the control centre (Fig. "C") and the MDS (Fig. "N").

In **manual mode** (operating mode display "M") the camera aperture to be set is read from the scale (18) on the control centre (Fig. "C") as appropriate to each distance on the scale (22). The MDS display in the operating mode "M" only shows the set film speed.

When shooting close-ups, the parallax between the camera and the flash unit may be visible as a dark shadow on the lower edge of your picture. You can avoid this by using the wide angle attachment or the bracket adapter 45-35 or 60-28 (optional extra).

3.7. Colour temperature

The light of your Mecablitz has a colour temperature of approx. 5600 K which corresponds to medium daylight. Some colour reversal films may have a specific tinge which is intensified when taking flash shots. Therefore study the instructions accompanying the film.

Some film manufacturers recommend the use of filters (gelatine foils) mounted in front of the reflector. Mounting is easy when using the filter holder which is part of the filter set 45-32 available as an optional extra.

3.8. Synchronization

Your Mecablitz should always be connected to your camera's X-contact or the sync switch should be set to "X". If your camera only features a hot shoe contact and no other sync connection, use the SCA 500 system cable available as an optional extra.

It is important that the shutter speeds recommended by the camera manufacturer be observed. Your pictures may show shadows if a speed faster than recommended is set on cameras with focal plane shutter. Slower shutter speeds are acceptable.

For diaphragm shutters a setting of 1/125 of a second is recommended.

4. "MDS" Microcomputer data system (Fig. "N")

The Mecablitz 45 CT 5 with the MDS (microcomputer data system) follows the modern trend of a compact data display.

The operating mode and displays are explained in more detail under the individual operating modes (5.5; 5.6; 5.7; 8).

The light display can be switched on and off with switch (38). The film speed DIN or ASA can be selected with switch (38). As appropriate DIN or ASA appears in the indicator window (42).

Meters or feet can be selected with switch (39), **m** or **ft** appears in the indicator window (42).

The data display window (41) shows numerically both switch position selections.

Should the light display operate irregularly then switch (4) should be switched off and on in order to regain a correct display.

5. Using the Mecablitz

5.1. Carrying the flash unit (Fig. "J")

Clip the **carrying strap 45-31** into both carrying eyelets (1). Slide the bracket into the vertical trapezoidal groove of the holding block (Fig. "D").

5.2. Prior to flashing (Fig. "L")

Slide the bracket into the quick-release device (27) of the holding block (25) and allow it to lock into position. Firmly screw down the small knurled screw. Secure the camera to the bracket using the large knurled screw.

The use of mounting bracket 202/4 (special accessory) is recommended for roll film and view cameras.

Connect the sync cord or SCA cable to the flash unit. Please read the operating instructions for the camera.

The carrying strap 45-31, which has been connected to the carrying eyelets (1) and the eyelet at the bracket end, can now be used to rest the combined unit on the chest ready for flashing. The hands are free to make notes, for example, while maintaining flash readiness capability (Fig. "K").

5.3. Modification for installing the camera on the left of the flash unit (Fig. "M")

Your Mecablitz is designed for use on the left of the camera. If you intend to use it on the right, remount the holding block for the camera bracket. See exploded view.

For remounting proceed as follows:

1. Remove the camera bracket.
2. Completely screw out the screw (35).
3. Remove the holding block (25).
4. Pull off the clamp (37). Remount it so that the thread points to the left. Observe the form of the clamp!
5. Unscrew the quick release device (27).
6. Fasten the holding block on the tightening strap, using the screw (35).
7. Refix the quick release device.
8. The bracket has two threads (1/4" and 3/8") for mounting it on a tripod.

5.4. Switching the unit on

Slide the On/Off switch (4) to the upper position (red mark visible). **Your unit is ready for firing when the flash ready light illuminates** (5).

It is not strictly necessary to turn the Mecablitz off when interrupting firing for a short while. 5 - 6 min. of flash readiness require the same amount of power as a full output flash. The running noise of the power pack is audible only immediately after turning on the unit or after firing a flash. The frequency of the flash unit — ready for firing — is beyond the range of human hearing.

Please do not forget to switch the unit off after use!

Attention!

When using the N 20 or N 21 power pack the On/Off switch (4) must be in the "Off" position (black mark).

5.5. Manual flash operation

The camera aperture setting is dependent on the flash-to-subject distance and the guide number of the unit for the film speed used, when using the manual flash mode.

Best of all determine the camera aperture by using the control centre (Fig. "C") functioning in this case as an aperture calculator.

Setting procedure:

Turn scale (16) with the film speed setting knob (17) until the appropriate film speed is next to the index mark (15). Bring the index line (19) of the aperture calculator disc (8) to the mark "M" (21).

The MDS only shows the set film speed in the display window (41), the operating mode indicator (45) illuminates at "M".

Read the camera aperture to be set from the scale ® opposite the distance scale (22).

e.g.:	Film speed:	21 DIN
	Flash-to-subject distance	3 m
	Aperture read to be set on the camera:	16

The aperture displayed will be automatically altered on inserting the wide angle attachment. The aperture for 3 m changes to 11 and can be directly read on the aperture disc.

Numerically:

$$\text{Camera aperture to be set} = \frac{\text{Guide number}}{\text{Flash-to-subject distance}}$$

Thus for the previous example:

$$\frac{\text{Guide number 45}}{\text{3 m}} = \text{Aperture 15} \sim \mathbf{16}$$

The aperture calculated in this manner must be corrected when using the wide angle attachment. The aperture must be adjusted by one step beyond the lower aperture. Thus **11** instead of 16!

5.6. Flashing with winder cameras

Winder operation is manual flash operation but with reduced power. Up to 2 flashes per second can be fired.

Setting procedure:

Turn scale (16) with the film speed setting knob (17) until the appropriate film speed is next to the index mark (15). Bring the index line (19) of the aperture calculator disc (8) to the mark "W" (24).

The MDS only shows the set film speed in the display window (41), the operating mode indicator (45) illuminates at "W".

Read the camera aperture to be set from the scale ® opposite the distance scale (22).

5.7. Flashing with automatic and MDS

The automatic mode to be set on the control centre (Fig. "C") is shown by the operating mode indicator "C" (45). First of all set the film speed with the knob (17). This speed is then shown in the display window on the right-hand side (41).

The selector disc (8) can then be used to select one of the six possible apertures. This is shown on the left-hand side in the display window (41). The maximum effective range of the flash is displayed between the aperture and film speed.

Make sure that the flash-to-subject distance does not exceed the maximum operating range displayed. Otherwise underexposed pictures can result.

The minimum effective range is not displayed. It amounts to approx. 10% of the maximum operating range (see Fig. "0").

Should you drop below this distance then overexposed pictures can result.

An object which is located between these two distances is measured by the automatic and correctly exposed.

In case of doubt - important above all for bounce flashes - a trial flash triggered by hand provides you with indication of the correct aperture by means of the auto check (7).

Attention:

The apertures on the camera and flash unit must always be the same for normal flash pictures.

Exceptions to this rule apply only for fill-in lighting, high-lighting and macropictures.

Plus-minus display

The apertures are set for film speeds 15,18, 21, 24, 27 and 30 DIN. Other film speeds lead under certain circumstances to slightly incorrect exposures.

The (+) or (-) sign to the far left on the display window @ reminds you that the exposure for the indicated aperture deviates by about 1 DIN. Normally these deviations are without meaning. Should you, however, use film which reacts sharply to exposure deviations then the plus-minus sign reminds you that these deviations can be compensated by correction of the camera aperture setting (intermediate apertures) or during film development.

Display example:	**- 5.6**	**8**	**20**
	5.6	**8**	**21**
	+ 5.6	**8**	**22**
	f	**m**	**DIN**

The MDS should be switched off with switch ® after setting in order to save power pack energy.

6. Care and maintenance

Please protect your Mecablitz from moisture and excessive heat.

Activating the electrolytic capacitor

The flash unit's electrolytic capacitor deforms when stored over a lengthy period of time. To prevent deformation, the capacitor should be activated every three months.

For activation, the flash unit is switched on for about 15 min. without firing a flash, or it is connected to mains supply for 15 min. using the power pack N 20 or N 21.

Recharging of NiCad pack

As the NiCad pack discharges spontaneously, it is recommendable to recharge it for about 5 hours every 3 months, before activating the electrolytic capacitor.

Battery storage

Remove the batteries from the battery holder if the flash unit is not likely to be used for a lengthy period of time. Battery leakage may damage the unit.

The batteries cannot stand excessive heat such as direct sunshine or naked flames.

The batteries cannot be recharged.

7. Optional extras

Accessories other than those intended for the Mecablitz 45 CT 5 must not be used on the unit.

Mecamat 45-30 (a)

The external sensor Mecamat 45-30 considerably broadens the Mecablitz applications. The available f-stops comprise 11 automatic working apertures. In "manual" position 7 power ratios (guide numbers) with 7 fixed flash durations are available.

The unit features a built-in no-parallax viewfinder for close-ups and two coverage angles (25° and 12°) for optimum readings.

Tele-attachment 45-33 with bag 45-29 (b)

Almost doubles the guidenumber. Recommended for telephoto flash shots. Infrared pictures are also possible.

Bounce diffuser 60-23 / 60-33 (c)

Handy bounce diffuser for gentle modelling with soft, directed light. Reflective surface: 252x203 mm.

Filter set 45-32 (d)

Contains 4 colour filters for special light effects and a transparent filter holder for filter foils (conversion filter or black filter).

Sync cord 60-51, 1 m (e)

Spiral sync cord 60-52 (e)

For "free flash" technique (flash unit separated from camera).

Sync extension cord 60-53, 1.25 m and **60-54**, 5 m (f)

For using the flash away from the camera.

Bracket adapter 45-35 (g)

Corrects the parallax between reflector and camera in close-up and wide-angle photography.

Bracket adapter 60-28 (without figure)

Similar to 45—35, however adjustable in height for matching winder cameras etc.

Mounting bracket 202/4 (h)

Allows secure and safe fastening of roll-film cameras and view cameras on camera bracket.

Spacer 202/1 (I)

For cameras with operating elements on the camera base. Allows to fasten the camera on the bracket without hindering the operating parts.

Mecalux 11 (k)

Car charger A 16 (l)

Allows to recharge batteries from the 12 V cigarette lighter of a car.

Hand loop 45-27 (m)

Makes it easier to handle the flash unit or both camera and flash when combined.

Carrying strap 45-31 (n)

For easier carrying of camera and flash ready for firing, or transportation without gadget bag.

Power pack N 20 (o)

Requires cable 45-55 for connection. The recycling time is approx. 4 sees. at full capacity, when one unit is connected.

Up to 2 flash units can be connected.

Power pack N21 (p)

Recycling time at full capacity is 16 sees. approx.

Gadget bag 45-34 (q)

Holds flash unit and accessories.

Camera cable release 45-26 (r)

Allows to release the cameras shutter with the hand holding the flash unit.

The other hand is free for focusing. May be set individually.

Can be mounted on the right or on the left.

Electric release 45-25 (not illustrated)

Similar to cable release 45-26; however, with switch for electric release (eg. winder).

Power pack 45-45 (not illustrated)

External NiCad pack power source of large capacity. Produces approx. 180 flashes with full output.

System cable SCA 500 (s)

Spiral sync cord for easy connection to the camera's hot shoe contact. The knurled nut of the contact stud provides reliable, fast linkage with the camera's accessory shoe.

Mecalux Mount 60-26 (t)

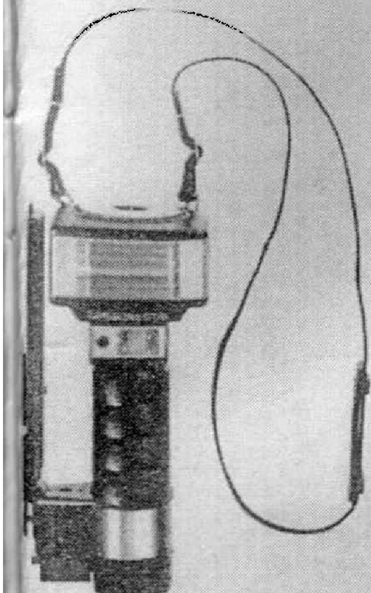
When using a handle-mount flashgun as a slave unit, the Mecalux

Mount 60-26 permits the Mecalux to be easily directed towards the triggering flashgun or a surface illuminated by it.

8. SCA-cables and special adaptors system 500

The SCA-cables and special-adaptors of system 500 are available as special accessories for conforming to the flash modes of the cameras operating in the dedicated flash mode.

Please see the operating instructions for the system SCA 500 resp. the manuals of the adapters to learn more about this.



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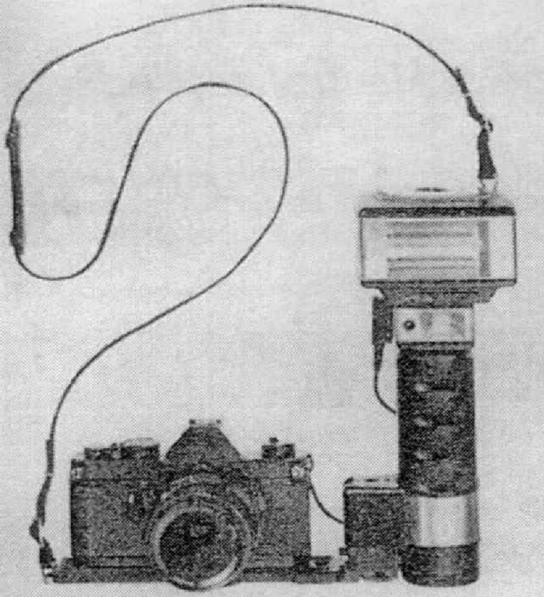

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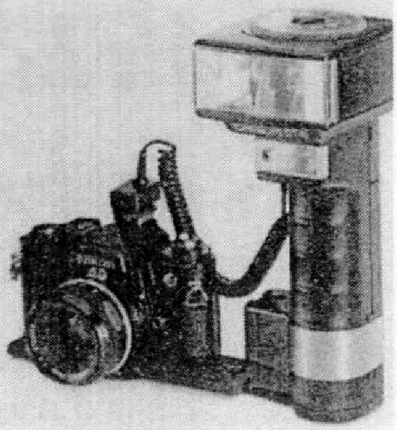

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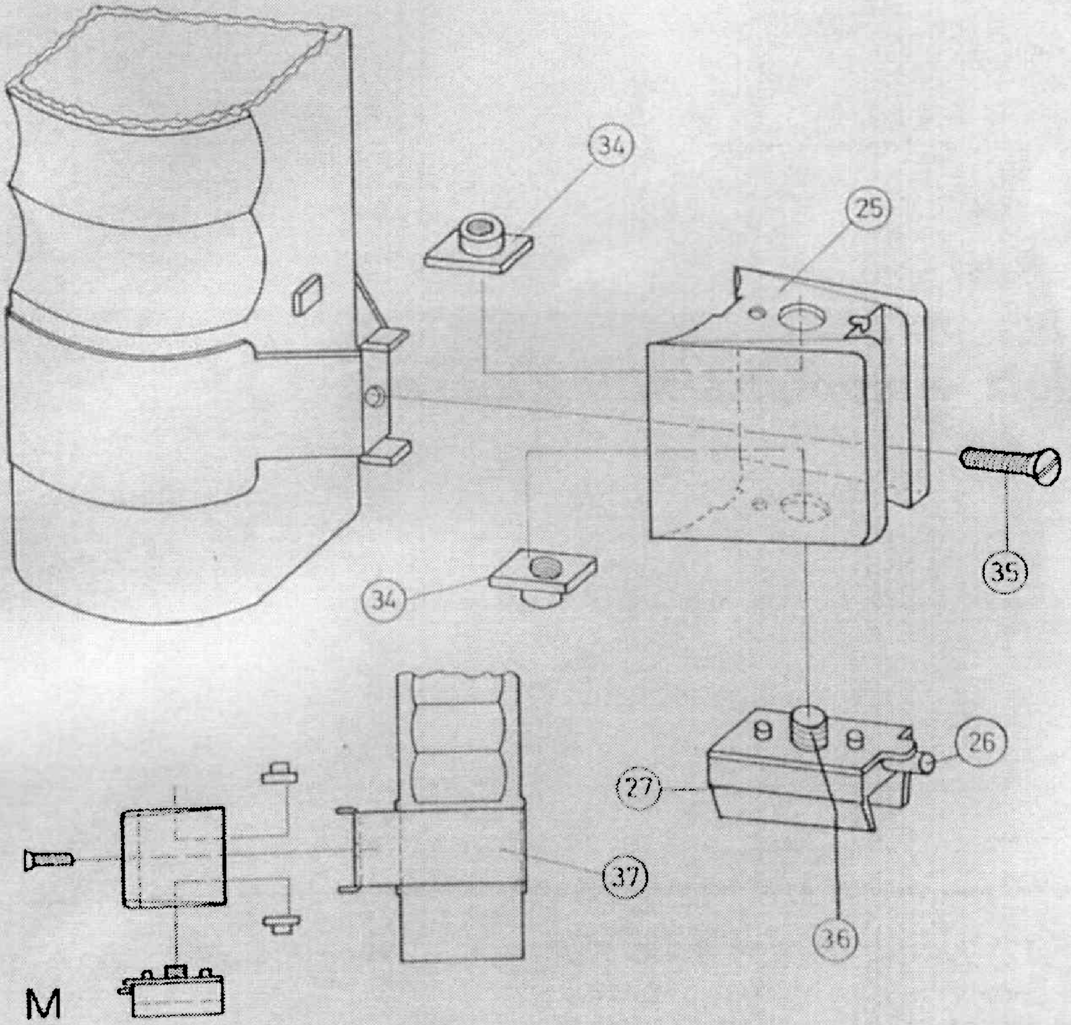

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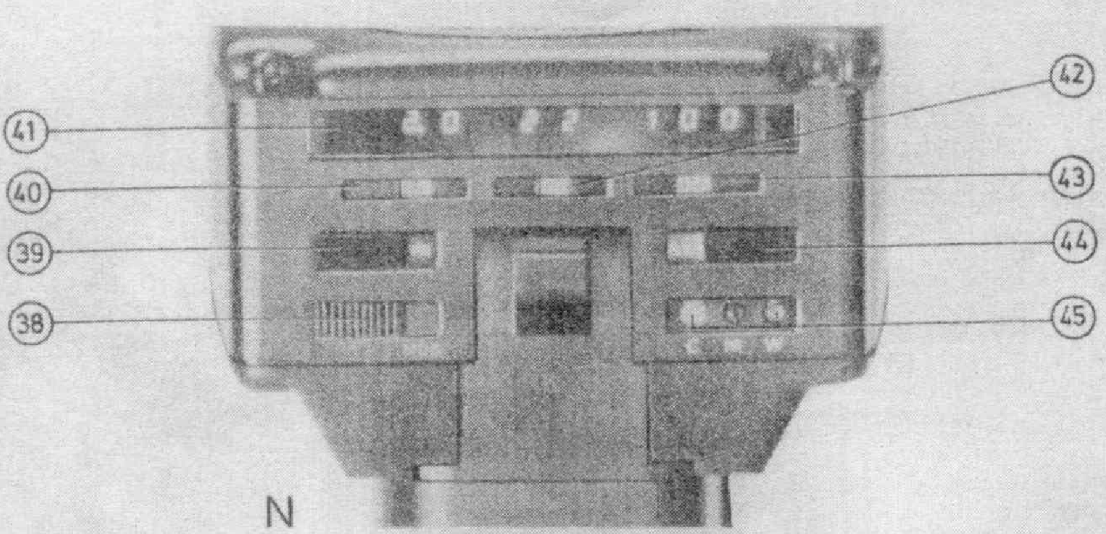
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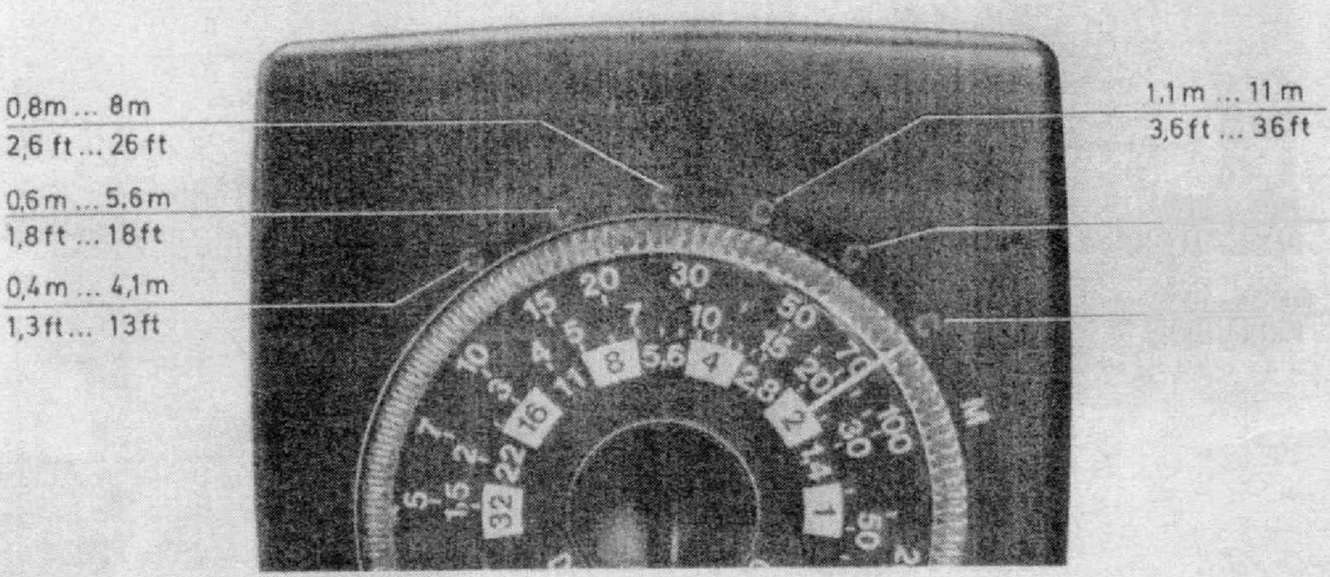
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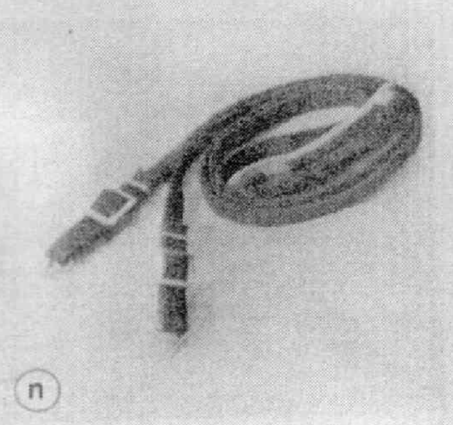

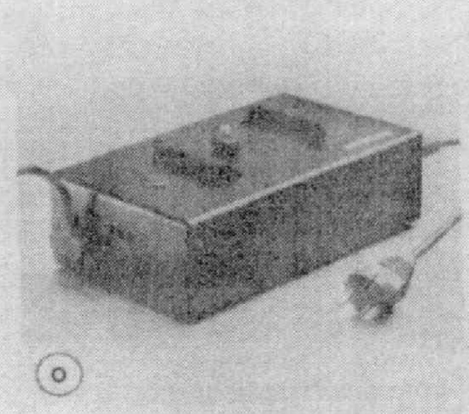

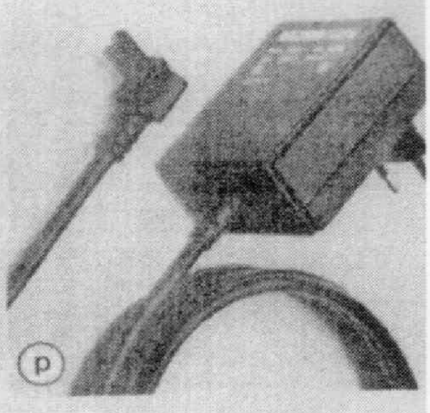

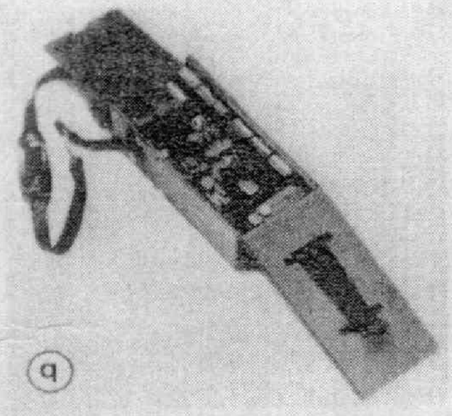

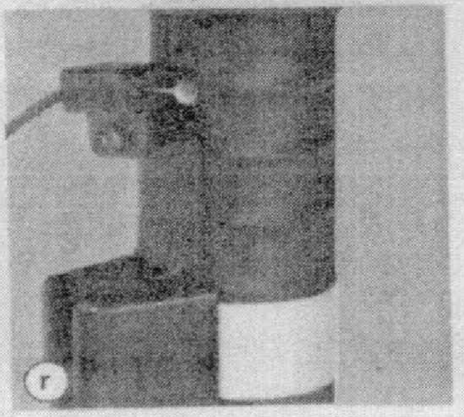

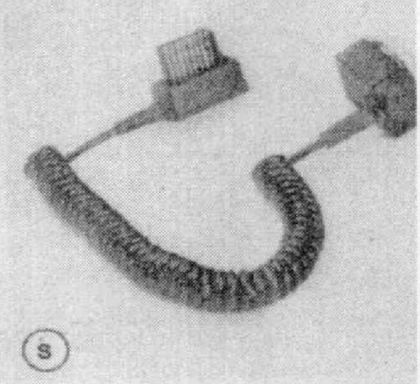

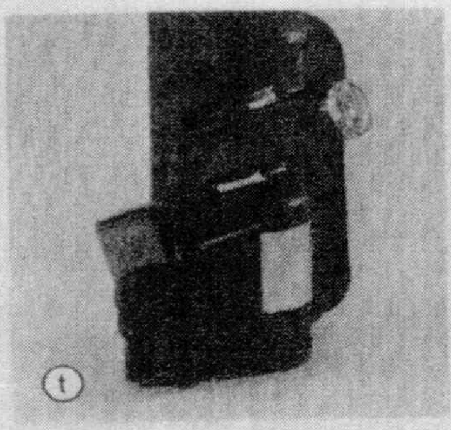

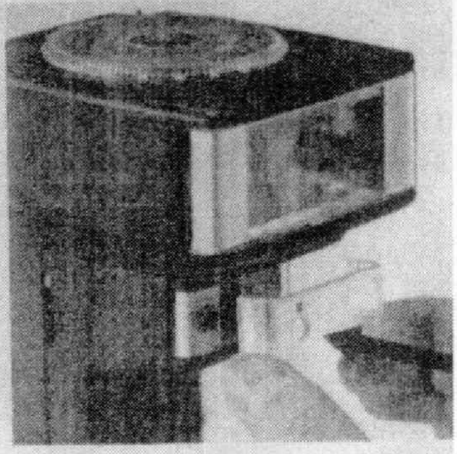

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